

MINUTES OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 6, 1978

The regular meeting of County Council was opened by Chairman Phinney with the opening prayer by Mr. Crain. All Members were present.

Motion entered by Mr. Bailes, seconded by Mr. Crain and carried to approve minutes of the May 16th meeting as furnished.

Motion by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Crain and carried to adopt in skeleton form on 1st Reading Budget Ordinance 78-7 for FY 1978-79. The vote was 5 in favor, 1 opposed (Herring) and 1 abstained (Earle).

Federal Building Inspector, C. A. Kerr and Mr. Bill Richardson, Building Inspector for the Oconee School Dept. discussed the Barrier Free renovation study they have conducted on a portion of the county buildings. The buildings checked and recommendations so far are:

Courthouse Installing an elevator or chair lift at stairs, rest room modifications and approved parking spaces

Hospital Water fountains

Health Bldg Parking areas/rails

Vocational Bldg Parking spaces/rails and erecting signs "Reserved for Handicapped"

A full report on the complete building study and recommendations for modifications must be made by July 5. Mr. Herring, Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, moved to accept the study/recommendations of Mr. Kerr and Mr. Richardson rather than to hire an architectural firm. Mr. Ables seconded and all votes were in favor. It was brought out in discussion that hopefully federal funds will be available for these modifications. The percentage of the funding, however, is not known at this time. Details were to be obtained by Mr. Kerr and Mr. Richardson and provided to Council later.

County Auditor, Ken Williams spoke with regard to the recent discussion of millage as was set for the 1977-78 FY budget. Mr. Williams told Council Members that he hoped his explanation would help clarify the matter which related to 8 mills being transferred from School Capital Expense (Salem Elementary School) to county operating. It was again pointed out in discussion that the monies collected as a result of millage for Salem School was still in the budget and available (\$450,452) and that millage was levied on this project for one year only. Councilman Earle expressed his appreciation to Mr. Williams for his report.

Ordinance 78-6 "Rock Crusher Ordinance" was passed on 1st Reading by title only. This Ordinance calls for the issuance of general obligation bonds not to exceed \$750,000 for the purchase and installation of a new rock crusher, and the purchase of property adjacent to the existing facility. Motion by Mr. Crain, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried. The vote 7 yes and 1 no (Earle).

A progress report on the construction of the hospital addition was given by Building Inspector, Jim LeCroy. Mr. LeCroy said that since there are no other county buildings under construction at this time he is working full time at the hospital site, and the work there was progressing on schedule.

Mr. Reg Tatum of Rochester Real Estate Co. requested a decision be made

on the construction of the road, as requested by the school Board and the City of Walhalla, to the Walhalla High School so that his Firm could proceed with developing the property they own in this area. During Mr. Tatum's presentation, he displayed maps which delineated the properties owned by Rochester Real Estate Co. and the Oconee County School District. Subject maps showed the proposed location of the road to be constructed. A lengthy discussion ensued between the Members of Council and Mr. Tatum. During the discussion Mr. Crain read a legal opinion prepared by the County Attorney as it relates to the County constructing a road within the city limits of a municipality (legal opinion attached). A copy of a tape of this discussion is on file with the Council Clerk. After this discussion Councilman Crain moved for the Chairman to refer this matter to the Roads and Transportation Committee for further study. Mr. Thomas seconded Mr. Crain's motion. Mr. Bailes then offered an amendment to this motion that Supervisor Phinney proceed with the clearing and grading of the right of way while the study is underway. Mr. Cox seconded the amendment. The vote on the amendment 4 yes (Bailes, Cox, Earle, Frady) and 4 no (Thomas, Crain, Herring and Ables). To break the tie Chairman Phinney voted no. Mr. Crain's original motion to refer this to Committee was adopted. The vote again 4 yes (Thomas, Crain, Herring and Ables) and 4 no. (Bailes, Cox Earle and Frady) and again Chairman Phinney voted to break the tie by voting yes.

A Resolution 77-6 in appreciation to Mr. James Todd, Director of Social Services for 41 years, for his dedicated service to the citizens of Oconee County was unanimously adopted by Council. Motion by Mr. Bailes, seconded by Mr. Frady.

Councilman Bailes moved to accept the recommendation of the Audit Study Committee to hire the Firm of Neil Byerley, Seneca S.C. to conduct the county audit for the fiscal year 1978-79. Mr. Cox seconded and all votes were in favor. The Firm of Rogers, Brigman and Peterson will do the 1977-78 audit.

Mr. Bailes introduced Resolution 78-7 pertaining to duties and responsibilities of the Executive Director of the Oconee Planning Commission. Mr. Cox seconded and all votes were in favor.

A motion by Mr. Cox to apply for six additional deputies under the manpower program died for lack of a second.

Chairman of Buildings and Grounds Committee, Mr. Herring moved to accept his Committee's recommendation to award the bid for the construction of the Walhalla and Westminster Libraries to the Able Construction Co at a cost of \$977,463. Mr. Ables seconded and the vote was 8 yes and 0 no.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.